



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-02000
Customer No. 22882
Express Mail Label No. ED541942603US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Confirmation No.: 8299
Gary K. Michelson, M.D.)
Serial No.: 09/921,851) Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: August 3, 2001) Examiner: B. Snow
For: METHOD FOR FORMING A)
SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE)
CONFIGURATION (as amended))

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-1066.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: November 16, 2004

By: 

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| Substitute for FORM PTO-1449 | | Attorney Docket Number 101.0084-02000 | | | Customer No. 22882 | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION | | Applicant Gary K. Michelson, M.D. | | | Application Number 09/921,851 | |
| (Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u> | | Filing Date August 3, 2001 | | | Group Art Unit 3738 | Examiner B. Snow |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | 2002/0068978A1 | 6/2002 | Camino et al. | | | |
| | 6,432,106 | 8/2002 | Fraser | | | |
| | 6,592,624 | 7/2003 | Fraser et al. | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION (YES/NO) |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | | |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. | | | | | | |